

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 4, 12 and 14-19; amend Claims 1 and 2; and, add new Claims 20-24 as follows.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A shock absorber comprising:
 - a pressure tube forming a working chamber;
 - a piston slidably disposed within said working chamber, said piston body dividing said working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber;
 - a piston rod attached to said piston body, said piston body extending through one end of said pressure tube;
 - a reservoir tube surrounding said pressure tube to form a reservoir chamber between said reservoir tube and said pressure tube;
 - a base valve assembly disposed between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber; and
 - a baffle disposed helicoidally wound within said reservoir chamber, said baffle ~~defining~~ engaging said pressure tube and said reserve tube to define a non-linear helical flow channel between a first portion of said reservoir chamber and second portion of said reservoir chamber, ~~said non-linear flow channel being the only flow channel between said first and second portions of said reservoir chamber.~~

2. (currently amended) The shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein said first portion of said ~~non-linear~~ helical flow channel is adjacent said base valve assembly.

3. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein said baffle comprises a baffle spring.

4. (cancelled)

5. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein said baffle has a T-shaped cross section.

6. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 5 wherein said T-shaped cross section includes a base section engaging said pressure tube and an upright section engaging said reservoir tube.

7. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 5 wherein said baffle comprises an elastomeric material.

8. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein said baffle includes a base section and an upright section.

9. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 8 wherein said baffle includes a wire disposed within said base section.

10. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 8 wherein said base section engages said pressure tube and said upright section engages said reservoir tube.

11. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 8 wherein said baffle comprises an elastomeric material.

12. (cancelled)

13. (original) The shock absorber according to Claim 1 wherein said baffle comprises an elastomeric material.

14.-19. (cancelled)

20. (new) A shock absorber comprising:
a pressure tube forming a working chamber;
a piston slidably disposed within said working chamber, said piston body dividing said working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber;

a piston rod attached to said piston body, said piston body extending through one end of said pressure tube;

a reservoir tube surrounding said pressure tube to form a reservoir chamber between said reservoir tube and said pressure tube;

a base valve assembly disposed between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber; and

a baffle disposed within said reservoir chamber, said baffle defining a non-linear flow channel between a first portion of said reservoir chamber and second portion of said reservoir chamber, said non-linear flow channel being the only flow channel between said first and second portions of said reservoir chamber; wherein

said baffle has a T-shaped cross section.

21. (new) The shock absorber according to Claim 20 wherein said T-shaped cross section includes a base section engaging said pressure tube and an upright section engaging said reservoir tube.

22. (new) The shock absorber according to Claim 20 wherein said baffle comprises an elastomeric material.

23. (new) A shock absorber comprising:

a pressure tube forming a working chamber;

a piston slidably disposed within said working chamber, said piston body dividing said working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber;

a piston rod attached to said piston body, said piston body extending through one end of said pressure tube;

a reservoir tube surrounding said pressure tube to form a reservoir chamber between said reservoir tube and said pressure tube;

a base valve assembly disposed between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber; and

a baffle disposed within said reservoir chamber, said baffle defining a non-linear flow channel between a first portion of said reservoir chamber and second portion of said reservoir chamber, said non-linear flow channel being the only flow channel between said first and second portions of said reservoir chamber; wherein

said baffle includes a base section and an upright section; and

said baffle includes a wire disposed within said base section.

24. (new) A shock absorber comprising:

a pressure tube forming a working chamber;

a piston slidably disposed within said working chamber, said piston body dividing said working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber;

a piston rod attached to said piston body, said piston body extending through one end of said pressure tube;

a reservoir tube surrounding said pressure tube to form a reservoir chamber between said reservoir tube and said pressure tube;

a base valve assembly disposed between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber; and

a baffle disposed within said reservoir chamber, said baffle defining a non-linear flow channel between a first portion of said reservoir chamber and second portion of said reservoir chamber, said non-linear flow channel being the only flow channel between said first and second portions of said reservoir chamber; wherein

said baffle includes a base section and an upright section; and

said baffle comprises an elastomeric material.